

# Moderna's COVID-19 vaccine: What are the facts

Moderna is an American biotechnology company based in Massachusetts that focuses on drug discovery, drug development, and vaccine development. It has created a vaccine for use in the **FIGHT AGAINST COVID-19**.

## What Type of Vaccine is It?

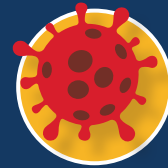


- The Moderna COVID-19 vaccine is an mRNA vaccine. This is a **NEW** vaccine developed to combat this particular virus.
- Research on mRNA vaccines has been going on for decades.
- The vaccine teaches your body's cells to make a harmless spike protein that starts an **IMMUNE RESPONSE**.
- This response **PRODUCES ANTIBODIES** that protect you when you are exposed to the virus that causes COVID-19.

## How is the Vaccine Given?

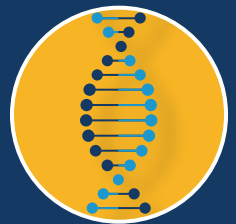


- The vaccine will be given by a **HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONAL** into the upper arm.
- The needle used for this vaccine is very similar to other vaccines you may have received in the past.
- The vaccine will be given in **2 DOSES, 4 WEEKS APART**, and is 94.5% effective after 2 doses.
- Moderna's COVID-19 vaccine is approved for people 18 years and older.



## Health Facts

- You can't get **COVID-19** from the vaccine.
- mRNA vaccines do not affect or interact with your **DNA**.



**SIDE EFFECTS:** The most common reported side effects of the vaccine are injection site pain, fatigue, headache, muscle/joint pain, and chills.

For more information about the COVID-19 vaccine, visit [vdh.virginia.gov/covid-19-vaccine](https://vdh.virginia.gov/covid-19-vaccine) or call 877-ASK-VDH3.



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